Collated.

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June 26th 1839

Examination of Mr Humphreys.

Wm Humphreys was sworn
Examined by Mr Slidell

I have been employed
in the Mint since the 12th
of February 1838 & have worked
in different portions of Mr
Maxwell's department I am
now engaged in assisting the
Melter. I have had frequent
difficulties with Mr Maxwell.
There is at this time a cool-
-ness on the part of Mr Max-
-well towards me & none on
my part towards Mr Maxwell.
I do not know the reason
of this coolness. As respects me
the conduct of Mr Maxwell
has been dishonest, he has
deceived me. He has deceived
me in not fulfilling the pro-
-mises he made me by letter
that induced me to come
from New York; having pro-
-mised to use his influence
with the officers of the Mint
to obtain for me satisfac-
-tory wages, which he has
not done. Mr Maxwell
without sufficient cause
dismissed my son from
the Mint.

Wm Humphreys

RG56 Entry 289 Box 4

June 26th

Questioned on behalf of Mr Maxwell

I applied to Mr Bradford for an increase of wages, Mr Bradford promised to allow it, if Mr Maxwell would recommend it. Mr Maxwell said that I was to have $3 & Mr Leabic $3.25 This I thought dishonest & that Mr Leabic was not entitled to any more than I was. Mr Maxwell afterwards allowed me the required wages through the intercession of Mr Bradford.

By Mr Slidell

The conduct of Mr Maxwell is capricious & eccentric sometimes treating the men in a friendly manner & sometimes he is unreasonable.

Mr Maxwell has spoken to me in a derogatory manner of all the other officers of the Mint.

I never saw in the Melter & Refiners department anything that I looked upon as suspicious as relates to honesty.

I consider Mr Maxwell as diligent at his business

Mr Sturtevant

RG56 Entry 289 Box 4

June 21st

I have no other grounds of complaint against Mr Maxwell than on the subject of my wages, his excentric conduct, dismissal of my son & abusing him for not doing work when in fact there was none to be done.

As relates to the administration of the business of his office I look upon Mr Maxwell as being honest. I have never seen or even conjectured anything that could make me think differently.

I consider him, Mr Maxwell, somewhat deficient in competency as far as my knowledge goes.

I do not know that there has been any combination between Mr Maxwell & Mr Tyler to injure the other officers of the Mint, except that Mr Maxwell told me that he, Mr Maxwell & Mr Tyler, had taken two pieces from the same ingot to Dr Hart to be assayed & I believe that Mr Maxwell told me that the assays varied.

Mr Maxwell

June 26th

Mr Maxwell seemed to consider the Southern Clerks in the Mint as being desperate men, & that he calculated to resign in consequence of some difficulty with one of them. Mr Maxwell said that he did not like the Clerks employed here, I think he said Southern Clerks.

Quest Do you think that the interests & prosperity of the Mint would be promoted by Mr Maxwells removal if you think so, why?

Ans. I do think so for the reasons before stated & because according to my judgment Mr Maxwell is incompetent.

I think him incompetent to manage the separating room, from a remark that I heard him make to Mr Spafford 2 months ago. The remark was that Mr Spafford asked him if he had a- ny particular proportions or quantities of Zinck to put in, to reduce Silver, Mr Max- well said that he always

Mr Maxwell

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put in an excess of Zinck & that the Zinck would be taken out in the Refiners room. I have heard the Melter complain that there was Zinck in the silver as it came from the seperating room. If the silver is properly recovered there should not be an excess of Zinck. My other reasons are that I have been working for the last 8 or 10 days in the melting room, there have been a number of Melts remelted because they were not properly alloyed.

I enquired of the Melter if such things happened long back, & he said that they sometimes occurred.

By Mr Bradford

I do not recollect ever having heard Mr Maxwell express dislike to the French Clerks or french population of the South.

I certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the Testimony given by Asa Humphreys, before Thos. Slidell Esq the Commissioner

Mr Humphreys

on the 26th of June 1839

In testimony whereof I have
hereunto subscribed my name & affixed
the impress of my Seal of office at
New Orleans on this 8th of Aug. 1839

Leonard Pierce

Notary